

Subject: Petitions

Report to: London Assembly (Plenary)

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 4 November 2015

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out details of petitions to be presented at this meeting by Assembly Members.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **That the Assembly receives and notes the petitions listed at paragraph 4 of this report and decides whether to refer the petitions, and if so where to, and seeks a response to the points raised.**

3. Background

- 3.1 Standing Orders 3.20 to 3.21 make provision for the presentation of petitions by an Assembly Member at an ordinary meeting of the Assembly.

A petition to be presented must:

- (a) Be addressed to the Mayor, the Assembly, a Functional Body (as the case may be);
- (b) Clearly indicate the name, address and contact telephone number of the person organising the petition, or where the petition was organised on the internet, its data controller;
- (c) Be presented in the form of printed sheets, each of which includes the “prayer” of the petition (the “prayer” is the formal request or other subject matter of the petition) or, if the petition was organised on the internet, clearly demonstrate that internet users who subscribed to the petition knew what the prayer was;
- (d) Include each petitioner’s name (which may be printed or be in the form of a signature, provided that the signature is legible) and address (sufficient that the person and their address can be identified) or, where the petition was organised on the internet, their names and email addresses;
- (e) Indicate the total number of manual or electronic signatories to the petition.

(f) Young people aged 17 or under signing a petition may give their address as that of the school, or other recognised youth group or similar organisation that they attend (with details of their class name where appropriate), provided that the lead petitioner is a teacher at or leader of that school or youth group or similar organisation.

(g) Indicate the total number of manual or electronic signatories to the petition; and

(h) Refer to matters within the responsibilities of the Mayor, the London Assembly or the functional bodies, or to matters of importance to Londoners, including those who visit, live or work in Greater London.

- 3.2 Notice of the intention to present a petition at an Assembly meeting and a copy of the petition must be given to the Executive Director of the Secretariat by no later than 12 noon six clear working days before that meeting.
- 3.3 Under Standing Orders the Member presenting the petition will read out the prayer of the petition (but not the signatories). The Assembly will not debate the petition. If the Assembly agrees without debate, the petition will be forwarded to the Mayor, Functional Body, relevant committee or other organisation with a request for a response to the points made by the petitioner. The response received will be reported to the Assembly for information and forwarded to the petition's organiser. The prayer of the petition and the response received will be published in the appropriate Assembly Minutes.

4. Petitions to be presented

4.1 Notice of the following petitions has been received:

4.2 A petition, received by **Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM**, is to be presented to the London Assembly, in accordance with Standing Orders 3.20 to 3.21, saying:

'To get planning permission for a new Whitgift Centre, Westfield are paying Croydon £15 million. TfL want to spend it (+£9 million) on a 'Dingwall Road loop' – which would stop trams short of most shops.

Our trams are crowded. Spend the money instead on more trams.

We the undersigned want the £24 million cost of the proposed "Dingwall Road loop" spent instead on more trams and longer trams (and longer platforms to cope). "

The petition has 2000 signatories.

The contact person for this petition is John Jefkins, 36 Norfolk Avenue CR2 8BN

4.3 A petition, received by **Stephen Knight AM**, is to be presented to the London Assembly, in accordance with Standing Orders 3.20 to 3.21, saying:

“We call on the Mayor of London to work with TfL and Westminster City Council to remove all motor traffic from Oxford Street, introduce a zero emission shuttle bus, leading to full pedestrianisation of Oxford Street by 2020.”

The petition has 1,919 signatories.

The contact person for this petition is Pete Dollimore, 96 Uxbridge Road, Hayes, UB4 OJH.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 By virtue of sections 59, 34 and 53 of the GLA Act 1999 (as amended), the Assembly has the power to do what is recommended in this report.
- 5.2 Under Standing Order 3.20 the petitions presented to the Assembly, together with the pages containing the names and addresses of the signatories to the petition, are documents to which the access to information rules from sections 100A - H and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 apply.
- 5.3 Any applications from Members to see the names and addresses of the signatories to the petition will be considered by the Executive Director of the Secretariat on a case by case basis and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Data Protection Act 1988.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report: None.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers: None.
Contact Officer: John Barry, Principal Committee Manager
Telephone: 020 7983 4425
Email: John.barry@london.gov.uk